

## The Struggle and Its Failure.

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commonwealth under the Oak of Reformation, and could not appreciate the logic that would pardon such useful citizens. They persisted in dispensing natural justice for the benefit of the commonwealth, and there was therefore nothing for it but a trial of strength between this gratuitous popular government and the official government. The official government accordingly despatched the Marquis of Northampton with an army to vindicate its' authority. Northampton entered Norwich in the beginning of August, repelled an attack by the rebel host from Household, and held the city for a few days, but was forced to retire as the result of a second determined onslaught. " We seek nothing," said they resolutely, in answer to Northampton's herald, " but to maintain the king's royal estate, the liberty of our country, and the safety of the commonwealth, which is oppressed by the gentlemen. This we will do, and do like men in the quarrel."

It was only by dint of desperate fighting that Lord Warwick with a second army, in which there was a large body of German *landsknechts* employed against the Scots, at last gained the upper hand in the fierce encounter in Dussinsdale on the 2/th August. Kett, who escaped the slaughter in Dussinsdale, was caught, tried by special commission at Westminster, sentenced to death, and hung on the top of Norwich Castle on the 7th of December. A few of the other leaders and a number of their followers were likewise hanged, but there was no indiscriminate and brutal retaliation as in Germany.

The simultaneous rising in Yorkshire was less formidable and equally unlucky. Here, too, the rebels professed their determination to establish a popular government, and succeeded in murdering a few of the county gentlemen before they succumbed to the county militia.

Thus in England, as in Germany, the Reformation was no gospel of deliverance from the wrongs of the common man. Its leaders had no sympathy with revolutionary violence, though some of them, like Latimer, spoke out manfully against the oppression of the poor by the rich. They courted the goodwill of a corrupt government whose protection was essential to their cause, and preached submission to the powers that be.

That cause advanced by leaps and bounds  
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